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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/612,534	07/07/2000	Lynh Nguyen	ST9-99-134	9366

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EXAMINER

JAROENCHONWANIT, BUNJOB

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2143

DATE MAILED: 10/09/2003

3

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/612,534

Applicant(s)

NGUYEN, LYNH

Examiner

Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 July 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-49 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-49 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 07 July 2000 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2. 6) ☐ Other: _____

Detailed Action

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference sign(s) not mentioned in the description: 324 of figure 8. A proposed drawing correction, corrected drawings, or amendment to the specification to add the reference sign(s) in the description, are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claims 13, 16, 17, 29 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

4. Claims 13 and 29 are unclear because they fail to state the location to which the first port module identifier is returned. Throughout this action it was assumed that the first port module identifier is returned to the interface module.

1. Claims 16-17 recite the limitation "the preceding" in line 1. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. In addition, the term "preceding" is a relative term, which renders the claim indefinite. It is unclear what this term refers to, what exactly would be repeated for each additional data source query.

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Claim 33 recites the limitation " steps 18 through 28" in line 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. In addition, "steps 18 through 28" is an unclear statement because there aren't steps listed in the application.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-14, 16-31, 33-47 and 49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carino et al (US. 5,930,786), in view of Egbert et al (US. 6,115,387).

7. Regarding claims 1, 18 and 35, Carino discloses the invention substantially as claimed, including a method, apparatus and program product (hereinafter a "system") for connection a plurality of remote applications with a data source, the system comprising:

Providing at least one interface module configured to interface with a remote application (Carino- column 4, lines 6-17 and figure 2);

Providing a connection manager to facilitate the interface for the interface module (Carino- column 5, lines 46-67 and column 6, lines 1-4 and figure 2).

However, Carino fails to mention the use of a port module to interface between the interface module and the data source.

In an analogous art, Egbert teaches the use of a port vector module dedicated to controlling port operations in the system and facilitating the transmission of data. Egbert also

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teaches establishing a direct connection between the port vector module and an interface module (Egbert- column 2, lines 4-47 and figures 1,2 and 3).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the applicant's invention, to include a port vector module in Carino's system, in order to service the ports of the system to facilitate control of transmission and reception of data through the ports.

8. Regarding claims 2, 19 and 36, Carino-Egbert discloses initializing the connection manager (Carino- column 11, lines 27-35).

Regarding claims 3, 6, 21-22 and 38-40, Carino-Egbert a connection manager that oversees the connectivity of the system (Carino- column 5, lines 46-67 and column 6, lines 1-4 and figure 2); connecting a port vector module in a network system, in order to facilitate the operation and coordination of the ports (Egbert- column 1, lines 4-47) and discloses establishing and authorizing a connection between the connection manager and the port vector module (Egbert- figures 2 and 3; column 5, lines 3-6 and column 6, lines 37-42).

Regarding claims 4, 23 and 42, Carino-Egbert discloses using an address table to determine the port identifiers and then releasing the port identifiers for transmission once the corresponding ports are available (Egbert- column 6, lines 6-18 and column 22, lines 61-67).

9. Regarding claims 5, 20 and 37, Carino-Egbert discloses authorizing a connection between an interface module and the connection manager (Carino- column 11, lines 27-59).

Regarding claims 7-8, 24-25, 41 and 43-47, Carino-Egbert discloses: determining which ports are associated with each data source and storing a data source identifier in a data structure (Egbert- column 6, lines 6-10 and lines 24-44); identifying each port by a port identifier and storing the port identifier in a data structure (Egbert- column 6, lines 10-14 and lines 24-44); and

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determining the availability for each port and storing an availability status for each port in a data structure (Egbert- column 22, lines 41-67 and column 6, lines 24-44).

10. Regarding claims 9, 11-12 and 26-28, Carino-Egbert discloses: storing the port identifiers in a first-in-first-out queue (Egbert- column 7, lines 38-50; column 8, lines 56-57 and column 9, lines 44-45); removing a port identifier from the queue once the port is no longer available (Egbert- column 13, lines 38-41 and column 14, lines 16-19).

11. Regarding claims 10 and 30, Carino-Egbert discloses retrieving data from the data source responsive to a command from the requesting application (Carino- column 2, lines 55- 67 and column 3, lines 1-4).

12. Regarding claims 13 and 29, Carino-Egbert discloses returning the port identifier once it has reached the bottom of the queue in order to release it for data transmission (Egbert- column 7, lines 45-54).

13. Regarding claims 14, 31 and 49, Carino-Egbert discloses converting the command to a structured query language format to support interfacing with the data source (Carino- column 4, lines 29-43).

14. Regarding claims 16 and 33, Carino-Egbert discloses repeating the method described for each additional data source query (Carino- column 2, lines 51-67, column 3, lines 1-4 and figure 4G).

15. Regarding claims 17 and 34, Carino-Egbert discloses disconnecting the remote application from the interface module (Carino- column 14, lines 45-48).

16. Claims 15, 32 and 48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carino-Egbert, in view of applicant's admitted prior art (AAPA). Carino-Egbert discloses the

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invention substantially, as claimed. Including, supporting an interface between the requesting application and the data source (Carino- column 4, lines 6-7, lines 29-34 and lines 37-43).

Carino-Egbert does not explicitly state inserting data into an HTML format.

However, the applicant admitted that interaction between databases and Internet web browsers is a common application, and Net.Data, which is capable of enabling interaction between the web browser and the database and presenting the data to the web browser in an HTML format, is well known in the art (Specification - page 2, lines 3-13 and page 3, lines 5-6).

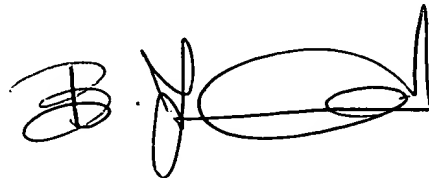
It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the applicant's invention, to include the insertion of data into an HTML format in Carino-Egbert's system, in order to allow interaction between databases and Internet web browsers.

17. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit whose telephone number is (703) 305-9673. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-17:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Wiley can be reached on (703) 308-5221. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3800.

/bj
10/6/03



**BUNJOB JAROENCHONWANIT
PRIMARY EXAMINER**